Parents’ Guide to Monash
**Why go to university?**

A university education offers your child:

- better employment prospects in an increasingly competitive economy
- a qualification that is recognised and respected worldwide
- access to a wider, more interesting and more lucrative range of careers
- the chance to make a difference in the world.

**Why study at Monash University?**

Monash is a world-class university. We deliver a learning experience on par with the best universities in the world. Monash is:

- ranked in the top one per cent of world universities (Times Higher Education world university rankings 2013-2014)
- a member of the Group of Eight, an alliance of Australia's most prestigious research-intensive universities
- a recipient of the highest ranking (five stars) from The Good Universities Guide (2014) in the crucial categories of staff-student ratios, staff qualifications, cultural diversity and research intensity.

**What types of courses does Monash offer?**

Monash offers rich and real choice. We empower potential students by allowing them to select a course of study that suits their personal interests, needs and career aspirations.

**Flexibility and choice**

*Comprehensive courses* offer maximum flexibility and choice. Your child can start studying a range of disciplines and through their choices progressively focus on one to two study areas.

*Structured for early specialisation*

*Specialist courses* offer focus and depth from the start of the course. Some specialist courses are designed to prepare your child to practice in specific professions, while others concentrate on developing particular expertise but are applicable to a broader range of related careers.

*Two courses studied concurrently*

*Double degree courses* are two undergraduate courses studied concurrently. A double degree course lets your child gain skills in two different areas of interest such as arts and law or science and engineering. Double degrees take two years less to complete than taking the courses one after the other because electives from each course count towards the other.

*A higher level qualification*

*Honours*

Some courses include an honours qualification within the timeframe of the undergraduate course. These courses take four years and include a designated research component. Students undertaking three-year courses can also choose to complete an additional honours year on completion of their course.

For more information about the range of Monash courses available, visit [monash.edu/study/options](http://monash.edu/study/options)
How to apply for university

Applying
Students must apply for undergraduate courses through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Year 12 students can apply from early August to the end of September, although there is some opportunity to apply outside these times.

Special admissions
VTAC is also where your child can apply for the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS). This scheme provides special consideration for students who:
- attended secondary school in a regional or remote area
- attended a secondary school under-represented in higher education
- are from a non-English speaking background
- are Indigenous Australians
- are experiencing difficult personal circumstances
- are experiencing financial disadvantage
- have a disability or medical condition
- are mature aged (21 years of age, or older in year of enrolment).

Selection
Each university approaches course selection in its own way. Monash selects applicants primarily on their ATAR, however some courses have extra or different requirements that must also be met, such as interviews or auditions.

Offers
First round offers are made in January. Students must formally accept, reject or defer their offer online.

For more information about applying to university, visit monash.edu/study/apply

More than 4500 leaders from the world’s most successful companies are more likely to hire a Monash graduate.

Global Employability University Ranking, 2011-2013

How can you help your child apply?
It is not necessary to apply to each university individually for each course your child is interested in. You apply through VTAC for all courses, SEAS and scholarships. VTAC shares this information with all the Victorian universities your child nominates. Encourage your child to lodge both a SEAS and scholarships application through VTAC when completing their course application.

What is an ATAR?
An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is the rank that your child receives when they finish Year 12. It is calculated in a way that takes into account all the different combinations of Year 12 subjects that students may have completed. The ATAR is a number between 0.00 and 99.95 with increments of 0.05. A score of 80.00 indicates that a student is in the top 20% of students in Australia.

To discuss course options or to answer your other queries contact 1800 MONASH (666274) or email future@monash.edu. Let us help you with your questions.
What if my son or daughter doesn’t get the required ATAR?

Access schemes

The Monash Guarantee
At Monash, we understand that sometimes an ATAR score doesn’t reflect your child’s true potential. The Monash Guarantee provides guaranteed access to eligible students into specific courses.

If your child is financially disadvantaged, an Indigenous Australian or completing Year 12 at a Monash-listed under-represented school, they could be eligible for a place at Monash even if their ATAR is below the required score.

For more information visit monash.edu/guaranteedentry

Pathways for students who do not meet entrance requirements

Pathway programs are another way to enter university. Monash offers several different pathway programs that help students achieve their ultimate goal of enrolling in a Monash course.

Here’s a list of our pathway programs. For more information about any of them, visit monash.edu/pathways

Diploma of Tertiary Studies and Diploma of Higher Education
The Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTS) and Diploma of Higher Education are alternative entry pathways into Monash for your child if they don’t meet the requirements for entry into a Monash course.

DoTS allows students with an ATAR of 50.00 or above, who successfully meet the English and mathematics prerequisites, to begin studying first-year units in either a business administration, business, education or nursing stream. Successful DoTS graduates can then transfer directly into the second year of a range of Monash degrees.

The Diploma of Higher Education allows students with an ATAR of 60.00 or above, who successfully meet the English requirements, to begin studying first-year maths and science units. Successful graduates can then transfer directly into the second year of a Bachelor of Science.

Indigenous pathways
The Monash Indigenous Enabling Program (IEP) and Indigenous Non-Award Pathway (INAP) are programs designed to support Indigenous Australians who wish to go to university.

TAFE Pathways
In some cases, students can use a TAFE qualification as a pathway to study at Monash. If you have successfully completed a certificate IV, diploma or advanced diploma, this may help you enter university.

Monash College
Monash College diplomas provide a pathway into the first or second year of selected Monash University degrees. These include degrees in art and design, arts, business, and engineering. There are some scholarships available for domestic students that cover the course fees of a Monash College diploma.

International students
For international students, alternative pathways to Monash include:
- English language courses
- Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY), which, if students pass successfully and meet the other entry requirements, offers a guaranteed place at Monash University
- Monash College diplomas.

‘I would recommend Monash to anybody who wants to follow their dreams.’

Emily Talbot

Emily Talbot has never deviated from her professional goal, which is something of an achievement given that she first knew she wanted to become a teacher at a very young age. Her experience at school only reinforced her desire to teach.

“[At] high school I realised that knowledge is something that nobody can take away from you. With that in mind I was determined to get to university to become a teacher and learn as much as I could.” Emily says.

“Without Monash and the Diploma of Tertiary Studies program I would not have been able to attend university because I did not have a good enough ATAR score. I could only attend one other university which would have required me to move out of home, [something] I was not prepared to do. The DoTS program has got me where I wanted to be,” Emily explains.

She found out about the DoTS program while at school and quickly realised it was the perfect alternative to direct entry into the degree course.

“I would recommend Monash to anybody who wants to follow their dreams. Monash has given me so much help and advice to allow me to achieve my goals and I cannot describe in words how much it has changed my life for the better. Without university I would not be who I am today and I now attend for more than vocational reasons.”
Making informed choices

School leavers today face more choices than ever before. With the pressure of school results, deadlines, part-time jobs and newfound freedoms, there’s not always a lot of time to consider the future. You can help your child stay informed and decide on a course and career.

Want to get the conversation started? Here are some useful questions to talk about with your child.

1. What do you love doing? What are you good at?
Start by exploring their passions, strengths and goals. Encourage them to talk to their teachers and school career advisors – they know your child and can help them think objectively about what they want to do and where they want to go.

2. How could you use your skills in the future?
Help them match their skills and interests to areas of study and career opportunities. Creative thinking can help here – a passion for design could not only lead to a fine arts degree, for example, but also to architecture, engineering, animation, or occupational therapy.

Keep in mind your child may change career paths several times over their working life. A Monash degree prepares graduates to be at the cutting edge of changes in global workplaces.

3. What’s on offer?
Universities have changed a lot in the past twenty years. Traditional courses and industries have shifted and the range of courses, specialities and opportunities is ever expanding. Students can also choose when, where and how to study.

Monash students have greater access to scholarships, opportunities to travel while they study, access to leadership and mentoring programs, and the chance to tap into highly sought after industry experience as part of their course.

The challenge is navigating the vast range of choices. This is where you can help.

4. Have you visited a university and talked to people?
Many Monash staff are experts in helping students choose the right course. Current students are also an excellent source of information about options and uni life in general.

Open Day is a terrific opportunity to find out about the variety of courses available and get valuable advice from staff, current students, and alumni.

Visit monash.edu/openday to find out more.

5. What are course entry requirements?
Many courses have prerequisites – subjects your child must have completed during Year 11 and 12 in order to be eligible for admission to a particular course. Knowledge in these subjects makes the transition to studying similar content at university easier. Your child may need to carefully consider their subject choices in Year 10.

What about extra requirements?
Some courses have extra requirements that must also be met. These may include interviews, auditions or folios. For a list of courses with extra requirements visit monash.edu/admissions/courses-extra-requirements.html.

Monash Residential Services can help students find accommodation whether they choose to live on or off campus. See mrs.monash.edu.au
How much does university cost?

Most Australian undergraduate students have their course fees subsidised by the Australian Government. They enrol in what we call a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP), which means that the student pays a proportion of the cost (student contribution amount or SCA) and the government funds the balance.

The amount the student pays depends on the individual units or subjects they study. It varies from year to year, but the costs range from between $6000 and $10,000 each year. Students can choose to pay that amount up-front, or, if eligible, can access the HECS-HELP scheme. HECS-HELP allows students to defer repayments until they graduate, start working and are earning a certain level of income. All students on a Commonwealth Supported Place are eligible for HECS-HELP.

There may be other costs associated with university study – accommodation, travel, books and materials. Your child may be eligible to receive income support from Centrelink centrelink.gov.au. There are different benefits, rates of pay and requirements depending on students’ circumstances.

For more information visit monash.edu/fees, speak to your child’s career practitioner or call 1800 MONASH (666274).

Scholarships

Monash believes in unlocking students’ potential to make a difference in the world. That’s why we offer one of Australia’s most comprehensive and generous scholarship programs. Students can apply for scholarships through VTAC. Some scholarships are awarded for academic merit (based on Year 12 results), some are equity based, and others are awarded based on a combination of both.

See monash.edu/scholarships

Where to go for further information:

Key events and information sessions

- ‘At Monash’ seminars.
- Monash information evenings.
- Open Day, during the first weekend in August.
- Course and career expos, such as the VCE Expo. Destination Monash is the best place to learn about and register for all these events.

One-on-one advice

- Call Monash staff on 1800 MONASH (666274).
- Make a time with the school career practitioner.

Our website

- monash.edu
- Our online Course Finder tool: monash.edu/coursefinder

Help your child develop a clear plan beyond school. Go to Destination Monash.

We’ve developed a website just for your child. One that helps make study life easier and gives a taste of the Monash Uni experience. Find out about all of our events for future students, get study tips, help to prepare for exams and read blogs from current uni students. The best news though? Parents will find it useful too.

Don’t delay, visit www.destination.monash